

Media Contact:

Sarah Ardalani Public Information Officer 213-257-2000 SArdalani@da.lacounty.gov

Twitter: @LADAOffice

June 2, 2016

Lancaster Man Convicted of Murder in Death of ATV Rider

A Lancaster man was convicted today of killing a man who was riding his all-terrain vehicle in the desert more than two years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

The jury deliberated for about four hours before finding Arturo Lopez guilty of six felony counts in case MA062878: one count of second-degree murder, three counts of possession of a firearm by a felon, one count of conspiracy to commit a crime and one count of offering false evidence.

Sentencing is scheduled for July 14 in Department A16 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Antelope Valley Branch. Lopez faces a maximum possible sentence of 45 years to life in state prison.

Deputy District Attorney John Evans, who prosecuted the case, said on Feb. 23, 2014, victim Steven Finson, 47, was returning home while riding his ATV.

As Finson was riding and taking pictures in the desert, he was fatally shot by Lopez, the prosecutor added.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Lancaster Station.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.